

## Today's News - Monday, January 12, 2009

- ArcSpace brings us Morphosis in Italy (makes us a bit dizzy).
- Arieff dreams about what will save the suburbs.
- Farrelly chokes on Sydney's suburban fumes (and fumes about toothless planning).
- Russell thumbs-up's and thumbs-down's to the past, present, future: "New York has a storied history of erecting great public works when times were hard...Now we should prove we can still do it."
- Bayley waxes practically poetic about economic realities and design, historically and today: "austerity does not have to be ugly or boring" (good fodder for Cannell vs. Moss debate?).
- Architect of new U.S. Embassy in Baghdad remains mum (perhaps a good thing?).
- Rochon re: Toronto's Trump tower: "Where's the glitz? ... please, not more green glass."
- Saffron says despite some deft details, Philly's new main post office doesn't deliver.
- Washington's historic Georgetown sends Apple back to the drawing board for being too modern with too much glass.
- A tempest swirls around Calatrava's bridge for Calgary.
- H&deM revise their Tate Modern plans.
- More praise heaped on Toronto's Artscape Wychwood Barns.
- Gensler breaks ground on the 2,000+ foot-tall, the Shanghai Tower.
- Polshek Partnership's Standard hotel on the High Line gets the Vanity Fair treatment.
- Kamin offers bunches of takes on Burnham's gifts to Chicago.
- Q&A with a former co-owner of a landscape architect - now a U.S. Representative - about green jobs, landscape architecture, and running a carbon-neutral campaign.
- Urban planners turn to artful lighting to showcase a city's character.
- Some tips to tackle the Cologne Furniture Fair.
- Call for entries: 3 sustainable studio/living units for ASSociety's artist-in-residency program.

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Morphosis: Hypo-Alpe-Adria Bank HQ, Udine, Italy

What Will Save the Suburbs? What's to be done with emptied-out suburban buildings, homes and communities? I still dream that some major overhaul can occur: that a self-sufficient mixed-use neighborhood can emerge....that creative ways are found not just to rehabilitate these homes and communities, but to keep people in them. By Allison Arieff - *New York Times*

Choking to death in the suburbs: ...one of the great ironies of modern planning, that the system we call suburbia, whose main promise was sunshine and fresh air for all, ended up destroying those things for everyone. By Elizabeth Farrelly - *Sydney Morning Herald*

Manhattan Boom Leaves Glam Condos, Sleek New Alice Tully Hall, Green Rail: Pundits already have scribbled their obituaries for the past era's architectural excesses...New York has a storied history of erecting great public works when times were hard...Now we should prove we can still do it. By James S. Russell -- Taniguchi; Handel Architects; Rockwell Group; Cetra/Ruddy; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Herzog & de Meuron - *Bloomberg News*

It's out with marble and chandeliers; in with polished limestone and glass: Economic reality is making companies think anew about design - and restaurants are among the most visible results...a truly terrible moment for investors in gilt...a great one for believers in good proportions, honest materials, modesty and decorum...austerity does not have to be ugly or boring. By Stephen Bayley -- David Collins - *Observer (UK)*

Kansas City architect of new U.S. Embassy in Baghdad stays quiet about role..."With a project this big and glamorous, you'd think there'd be a lot of hoopla. I haven't heard one peep."..."the enclave is grim and spare and its design may be aptly compared to that of a high-security prison. This is regrettable, but not unexpected." -- Berger Devine Yaeger; Berger Group - *Kansas City Star*

So boring we don't even get Trumped? Donald, where's the garish? Where's the glitz? Oh please, not more green glass ... despite numerous fits and starts...the \$500-million Trump International Hotel & Tower...in downtown Toronto is now, categorically, going ahead. By Lisa Rochon -- Zeidler Partnership; Il BY IV Design Associates [image] - *Globe and Mail (Canada)*

P.O. design doesn't deliver, either: ...Postal Service's new Philadelphia flagship...bean counter's dream has been shoehorned into the ground floor of a parking garage...architects worked hard to give the low-budget facade a bit of flash, and there are some deft details... By Inga Saffron -- KlingStubbins [slide show] - *Philadelphia Inquirer*

Apple's Modern Look Rejected in Georgetown as Store Hits Snag: The historic district doesn't want it...rejected for being too modern, with too much glass. -- Bohlin Cywinski Jackson - *Bloomberg News*

Bridge called 'lightning rod': ...tempest over a \$25-million pedestrian bridge over the Bow River west of Prince's Island...The no-bid awarding of the design and supervision contract to Santiago Calatrava is a focus of resentment among the city's architectural community... - *Calgary Sun (Canada)*

Contracting a disease: Decision to award \$3.3M no-bid project to Spanish architect stinks on a number of levels...Calgary can now join the ranks of Jerusalem and Venice as being stuck with a public works project the city doesn't need, with a price tag far higher than is reasonable, and picked in a process that is highly dubious. -- Santiago Calatrava - *Building Design & Construction (BD&C)*

Tate Modern extension revised: Herzog & de Meuron has submitted a new planning application [image] - *The Architects' Journal (UK)*

Industrial chic: The Wychwood streetcar repair barns were once a major hub of the Toronto Civic Railway, the forerunner of the TTC. After an environmentally-friendly makeover, they have become some of the most desired spaces for artists in the city. -- Artscape; du Toit Architects; ERA Architects [slide show] - *Globe and Mail (Canada)*

Great Tall of China: Gensler's San Francisco office breaks ground on China's height champion: More than 2,000 feet tall, the Shanghai Tower will surpass its neighbors, the Jin Mao Tower [SOM] and the [KPF] Shanghai World Financial Center [image]- The Architect's Newspaper

Hop on the High Line: The latest creation from André Balazs is a New York branch of his modish Standard hotels...two glass-curtain slabs literally jump the tracks of...the old freight railroad...The design spans — and expands on — a century of modern architecture. -- Diller Scofidio & Renfro; Todd Schliemann/Polshek Partnership; Roman and Williams [images]- Vanity Fair

Burnham's gift: Today's Chicago was born of the century-old plan that still has the magic to stir men's blood; Planning for Chicago's future requires Burnham-style vision--and a big pair of green-tinted glasses. By Blair Kamin -- Elva Rubio; Philip Enquist/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Doug Farr- Chicago Tribune

Q&A with U.S. Representative Kathy Dahlkemper, former co-owner of a landscape architecture firm, about green jobs, landscape architecture, and running a carbon-neutral campaign.- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Cities shed artful light on the canvas of night: As lighting moves beyond its utilitarian role, urban planners are embracing it as a way to showcase a city's character. -- Duilio Passariello; Lighting Urban Community International (LUCI); Schwedinger/Light Projects; Dark Skies; de Rugy/Art Lumière- Christian Science Monitor

Five Tips for Tackling IMM Cologne Furniture Fair: From Design Week in Cologne to a platform for young designers, IMM is action-packed with new product...January 19-25- Interior Design magazine

Call for entries: 3 sustainable studio/living units for ASociety's expanding artist-in-residency program in New York's Catskill Mountain Region; deadline: February 15- Andes Sprouts Society (ASociety)

WORDS THAT BUILD: Tip #10: Use paragraph spacing in writing and pauses in conversation to promote "out of the box" thinking. By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow

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